

## § 422.672

general and specific issues to be resolved, the burden of proof, and information about the hearing procedure.

(b)(1) The hearing officer may, on his or her own motion, change the time and place of the hearing.

(2) The hearing officer may adjourn or postpone the hearing.

(c)(1) The MA organization or CMS may request an extension by filing a written request no later than 10 calendar days prior to the scheduled hearing.

(2) When either the MA organization or CMS requests an extension, the hearing officer will provide a one-time 15 calendar day extension.

(3) Additional extensions may be granted at the discretion of the hearing officer.

[75 FR 19813, Apr. 15, 2010]

## § 422.672 Appointment of representatives.

A party may appoint as its representative at the hearing anyone not disqualified or suspended from acting as a representative before the Secretary or otherwise prohibited by law.

## § 422.674 Authority of representatives.

(a) A representative appointed and qualified in accordance with § 422.672 may, on behalf of the represented party—

(1) Gives or accepts any notice or request pertinent to the proceedings set forth in this subpart;

(2) Presents evidence and allegations as to facts and law in any proceedings affecting that party; and

(3) Obtains information to the same extent as the party.

(b) A notice or request sent to the representative has the same force and effect as if it had been sent to the party.

## § 422.676 Conduct of hearing.

(a) The hearing is open to the parties and to the public.

(b) The hearing officer inquires fully into all the matters at issue and receives in evidence the testimony of witnesses and any documents that are relevant and material.

(c) The hearing officer provides the parties an opportunity to enter any ob-

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jection to the inclusion of any document.

(d) The MA organization bears the burden of going forward and must first present evidence and argument before CMS presents its evidence and argument.

[63 FR 35113, June 26, 1998, as amended at 75 FR 19813, Apr. 15, 2010]

## § 422.678 Evidence.

The hearing officer rules on the admissibility of evidence and may admit evidence that would be inadmissible under rules applicable to court procedures.

## § 422.680 Witnesses.

(a) The hearing officer may examine the witnesses.

(b) The parties or their representatives are permitted to examine their witnesses and cross-examine witnesses of other parties.

## § 422.682 Witness lists and documents.

Witness lists and documents must be identified and exchanged at least 5 calendar days before the scheduled hearing.

[75 FR 19813, Apr. 15, 2010]

## § 422.684 Prehearing and summary judgment.

(a) *Prehearing.* The hearing officer may schedule a prehearing conference if he or she believes that a conference would more clearly define the issues.

(b) *Summary judgment.* Either party to the hearing may ask the hearing officer to rule on a motion for summary judgment.

[72 FR 68725, Dec. 5, 2007]

## § 422.686 Record of hearing.

(a) A complete record of the proceedings at the hearing is made and transcribed and made available to all parties upon request.

(b) The record may not be closed until a hearing decision has been issued.

## § 422.688 Authority of hearing officer.

In exercising his or her authority, the hearing officer must comply with